

April 25, 1990

Vol. XVII

No. 9

8 pages

Spree Day adds circus attraction

by Christine Houle
Strobe staff

Classes are coming to a close, and student's thoughts are turning to Spree Day. This year the annual event will be held Friday, May 4, from 12-6 p.m. at the intramural Athletic field.

The theme to this year's Spree Day is going to be different from recent years. Along with three live bands, John Cafferty and the Beaver Brown Band, the I-Tones, and possibly, the Vestrymen, there will be a "carnival sort of thing," according to Bob Bishop and Mike McCullagh, special events coordinators for the Programs' Committee.

The Resident Assistant (R.A.) Council is helping with the carnival. The Council had originally planned a carnival for April 28, then the Programs' Committee asked if they could change it to the same day as Spree Day. By combining both events, the R.A. Council and the Programs Committee felt that both events would be more successful.

The Carnival itself encourages participation from all groups and organizations on campus. There are a number of groups that are planning to have tables and booths set up selling different items. A

dunking tank and moonwalk are also in the works.

The Special Events Committee has been working for two months on this event, dealing with Facilities, Public Safety, the Campus Center, the Athletic Department, Pretty Polly Productions (talent), and D.A.K.A. Due to last year's occurrences, the committee has encountered difficulties in planning the event. The budget cuts have also added to the difficulties.

"Because of that (last year's Spree Day), we couldn't use anything on campus, be it Weston, the gym, etc.," stated McCullagh. "Thus, we opted for something out of the ordinary and rented a big circus tent." Rain or shine, the event will be held at the Athletic Field on the scheduled day. If the day does prove to be sunny, the tent will not be used.

Due to the crowds, arrests, and other problems on last year's Spree Day, a liquor license has been denied. D.A.K.A. will provide the food for this event. Typical carnival fare, such as hot dogs, hamburgers, and cotton candy are on the menu. A second request for a liquor license is being attempted as well.

Even with all the problems, Bishop feels, "Spree Day will be a good time had by all," and encourages all to attend.

Organizations aid Alumni Association

by Maria Mewing
Strobe staff

A few years ago Alumni Office Director, Denise Popko, found herself with a limited staff and thousands of pieces of mail to send out. In the interest of time, and the sanity of all concerned, she created "An Emergency Help Night." Student groups were asked to help with the mailing in return for pizza, soda, and the knowledge that they made a great contribution.

With the recent budget cuts increasing the lookout on money saving techniques, Popko pulled the program out for April 18. The goal was to process 13,500 pieces of mail in one evening. This task, she said, would take her current (larger) staff three to six weeks to accomplish.

"With the budget cuts, I thought it was time to try this again. Having this night saves time, money, and gives us a chance to gather all the student volunteers together to meet. We thought it would be a fun way to accomplish our goal," Popko said.

WXPL's newly elected station manager, Tom Benham, was spinning discs, as 150 student volunteers labeled and packaged pieces by zip code. Veteran "bulk mailers" John Mustaccio, president of Sigma Tau Gamma, and Gail Brebner, Student Ambassador, added a professional edge to the night, ensuring that each mailbox

contained the properly sorted pieces. The effort started at 7:30 p.m., and by 8:05 p.m. most groups were on their way out the door, having put themselves out of work.

President Mara showed up about 8:10. His response was, "Terrific. I am amazed it was done so fast." Dr. Mara was particularly impressed with the students' eagerness. "After all the budget cuts, fee increases, and other hardships the school has asked of students, it is very, very nice to see that they still want to help out," said Mara.

Inter-Fraternity and Sorority Council President, Adelphian Sharon Timberlake said members of her group "were willing to help a worthy cause. They (Alumni) donate so much back to the school." This sentiment was roundly echoed by other volunteers.

While new clubs such as the English Club and Sigma Tau Gamma found the night a good opportunity to start their campus involvement, more established clubs, such as WXPL, found it a chance to thank Alumni for gifts received. In WXPL's case, they received a new on-air board.

Denise Ehnstrom, Alumni's events coordinator, was pleased and surprised by the turnout. "It was overwhelming. The students were eager and enthusiastic, begging for more work," said Ehnstrom.

Tardanico mourned by students and faculty

by Christine Leccese
and Dena Francavilla
Strobe staff

Dr. Philip Tardanico will be missed by students and faculty alike. He will be remembered not only for his dedication to the field of Industrial Technology, but for his concern and ability to relate to his co-workers as well as students.

Tardanico, a 1952 graduate of Dorchester High School, received his Bachelor's Degree of education in industrial arts from Fitchburg State College in 1957, and his master's of education from Boston State College in 1963. He moved on to teach junior high school in Winchester, MA and high school in Bedford. He received his doctorate from Temple University in Pennsylvania in 1974, and came to teach at FSC in '75. He was chairperson of the Industrial Technology department during the past six years. In an interview with Tardanico that appeared in the April 19, 1989 issue of the Montachusett Review, he emphasized the importance that industrial science has on a student from the moment they enter school. "Building blocks, working with sand. Those are technological things. There isn't a kindergarten that exists without deal-

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Dith Pran survives the killing fields



Dith Pran

Strobe photo by Mau Datillo

by Andrea Wallace
Strobe staff

Genocide: the systematic killing or extermination of a whole people or nation.

Auto-genocide: a term coined to describe the extermination of one's own race.

It is difficult for most of us to comprehend the rationale of a political party, which seeks to exterminate members of its own race, a regime which killed three million out of seven million people living under its control. Quite often when something is beyond our comprehension, as in this case, we choose to ignore it. Denial is not possible for everyone however, especially not for Cambodians who were direct victims of this modern day holocaust, especially not for Dith Pran.

Pran's story (basis for "The Killing Fields") is one which is all too familiar to many Cambodians today. When the radical Khmer Rouge regime captured the capital city of Phnom Penh in 1975,

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Waste not, want not: The Conservation Movement

by Tina Simulevich
Contributing writer
This is the third and final story of a three part series

On April 22, the world celebrated Earth Day, and an advancement in environmental awareness emerged. Through the efforts of dedicated individuals and group programs, the public became informed and educated on growing problems of pollution, solid waste and the destruction of our natural resources.

Now that the official celebration of Earth Day is over, the ultimate goal is to have environmental education continue. The responsibility does not lie within one group, or a handful of tie-dyed activists. The responsibility rests upon each individual of society to preserve our water, land, atmosphere, and animals.

Organizations such as Green Peace, (1.4 million members) and

the National Wildlife Federation (5.6 million members) are lobbying Congress on issues of clean-air and acid rain. Because of their growing membership, Congress is being forced to take action and pass legislative bills concerning environmental reform. The cost, however, may outweigh the cause. Any bill on clean-air that doesn't meet a sufficient budget will undoubtedly be vetoed.

The ball then bounces back into the public's back yard. Each household has to stop and examine what role he plays in the environment. 140 million tons of conveniences, such as paper plates and disposable diapers, are buried in our land every year. The public has to take time out to recycle and conserve our natural resources. Maybe then, we can celebrate Earth Day 1991 feeling a lot safer and healthier.

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EDITORIAL

Getting the nerve

Joining a club or organization on campus is not always the easiest thing to do. Either we're too busy with homework, or there's no time in our daily schedules. I finally got my nerve during my second semester as a freshman. I saw posters in G-lobby of The Strobe's general meeting. Many positions were available, so I found time within that busy schedule (you know how busy freshmen are) to attend the meeting. Of course, I didn't want to go by myself. I persuaded my friend to tag along with me.

Finding The Strobe office was not easy. We passed by the door twice and ended up in the SGA office. After reaching our destination, we were approached by a scary looking student by the name of Tony Lorenzen. He had long red hair and was full of enthusiasm. We were frightened at first, but after talking to him, good ole' Tony wasn't so bad after all. His sidekick, Andy Baron, was very much at ease with everything. He was more than willing to help us out.

I was given the title: Strobe typist. What a proud moment. There was one problem: I had no idea how to use those computer "things" in the office. They just looked too complicated. What did I get myself into?

As it turned out, the computers weren't so bad. I got to know them pretty well. Sure, problems did arise to the point of just walking out the door and forgetting them. But, the students I met during the three years on The Strobe (Kathy, Mary, Eric, Matti, Faith, Scott, Wallace, Beth, Sue, Dan, Maureen, Carolyn and the list goes on and on), made it all the worth staying on! Now, I'm glad I didn't walk out the door. It doesn't hurt anyone to get involved. It's just a matter of knowing what you like to do, and willing to put in the time and effort without killing yourself in the process. Some day when you're looking back, the people you worked with, and the duties you took on may not have been all wonderful, but they all seem well worth it in the end. Good luck and rest well during the summer!

FSC Police Blotter

The following information is provided for the period of April 10-17, in which Public Safety Officers responded to these incidents. Some of these are alleged incidents and some are still under investigation.

Report of a male causing a disturbance in Town House #5.
Vandalism in the Ross Street lot by a grammar school student.

Noise complaint/fight in New Hall #2.
Larceny from a parked vehicle parked in the North Street lot.
Larceny of a white chair from the lobby of the Hammond building.
Harassment by telephone complaint received.
Report of a breaking and entering in a room in Russell Towers.

Report of a video player stolen from Image Systems.
Report of two chairs being damaged in the Commuter Cafe, Hammond building.
Larceny of one pylon from Authority Drive.
Disturbance in/outside Percival Hall.
Disturbance in New Hall #1.
Larceny of a transit from a work site near Miller Hall.

With the arrival of some warmer weather, everyone needs to be careful when walking or running, particularly early in the morning or in the evening. Don't take risks, be aware of your surroundings!

Announcements

Jane Fiske, a music instructor at FSC, will present a free piano recital on April 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kent Recital Hall of the Conlon Music Building, sponsored by the Honors Club. The program is open to the public.

GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance) is a support group to help unite gays and lesbians in the FSC community. If you would like more information, write to box 1019.

The American Cancer Society presents "You're Never Too Old," on April 30, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Tufts University of Medicine in Boston. The program will include discussion for students of medicine, and all health professions. Call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-952-7664 for more information.

The Massachusetts Association for Women Deans, Administrator and Counselors (MAWDAC) will hold a Spring Symposium, "Women, Power and Leadership in the New Century," on May 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Bentley College. For more information, call 617-353-9076.

Amnesty International will hold a candlelight vigil on Thursday, May 3 in the FSC quad at 7:00 p.m.

LAST CALL FOR LOST & FOUND- The Lost & Found at Public Safety is full again this year. Please stop by the Office if you've lost anything. We have some books, notebooks, lots of eyeglasses, jackets, and a huge box of keys, to name a few items. Please! We need the space and we really would like to reunite some of these items with their owners.

Student Health Services is presenting The Feminine Mistake - Smoking! at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 3 in the Campus Center Lecture Hall.

Student Nurses, make your appointments for physicals for Clinical as soon as possible. Nominal fee. Call 345-2151 Ext. 3216 for an appointment with the Nurse Practitioner.

Dr. William Keough, an English professor at FSC, will be signing copies of his new book Punchlines on Tuesday, May 1 in the bookstore from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.. The book is about violence in American humor.

The First Response Club will be offering C.P.R. classes on the 25th (6:30-10:00 p.m.). A C.P.R. re-certification class is scheduled for May 2 at 6:30 p.m. For those interested, contact Box 1028. Each certification class will cost \$10.00.

The Craft Center's Mohammed, Michelle, amanda, and Julie, wish to let students know there is still time to take advantage of the free \$3.00 worth of crafts available to each student. They encourage all to take a breather from uopcoing finals by making a candle, pin, stained glass, or any of the other crafts available in the basement of the Hammond Building.

FSC is forming a Recycling Committee. Their first meeting will be held April 25 at 3:30 p.m. in Conlon 318. All are encouraged to attend.

Commentary

Dirty, Filthy, Lucre Money

If money is the root of all evil, perhaps evil, in an equal sense, is the root of all money, all really big money anyhow. Behind every great fortune, it has been said, lies a crime. Consider the shenanigans of J. Peirpont Morgan or the more recent sagas of Ivan Boesky and Michael Milken. Money draws a crowd, and the prospect of easy money often encourages a feeding frenzy.

Certainly, we can envision a kinder, gentler world if we didn't have to deal with and think about money. But we do, every day.

Money is certainly at the root of the Commonwealth's current woes, which means that money is at the root of our public higher education woes. Perhaps inspired by the seemingly bottomless deficits of Reaganomics and supply-side economics, our own Massachusetts legislators, encouraged by the governor, used generously optimistic revenue figures to estimate the 1989 and 1990 budgets, which has resulted in a short-fall of between one and two billion dollars. Unlike the federal situation, however, the wolves are baying at the State House door to rend the last piece of fat off the Commonwealth carcass. Cut, cut, cut is the cry.

The result is clear at the respective Commonwealth colleges and universities. Students are paying more for less. Professors and other staff are giving more for the same or less. Moneys for dormitories and repairs to the physi-

cal plants have dried up, and libraries are put on hold. So we are watching as a system recently encouraged and backed by generous legislative commitment in dollars and "sense" slips back down the ladder of respectability.

It has taken a long time for America to grant teachers a modicum of respectability. In post-colonial times, the itinerant school-master was often a figure of fun, a lanky Ichabod Crane who depended on the largess of his pupils' parents for room and board and could be jokingly harried by a macho Brom Bones. More recently, teaching, especially in the lower grades, was considered something most appropriate to housewives and old maids. One didn't really need a living wage. Well, one does now, and there are unions to fight for that.

But where is the money to come from to pay for quality education? TAXES. There it is, the dirty "T" word as Representative Chester Suhoski (D-Gardner) calls it. Everyone wants services such as nursing home care for a sickly parent, roads free of potholes, state colleges for their sons and daughters. But not everyone wants to pay for these services. A dilemma then, but is it really the sword of Damocles, Occam's razor? Not really. It is more like the whip-

lash from the angry tongues of the likes of tax-biter and baiters like Barbara Anderson, Howie Carr, and Jerry Williams.

Remember Prop 21/2? That supposedly relieved property owners of an "unfair" burden but in effect bankrupted cities and towns and shifted additional tax burdens onto the Commonwealth which bailed out the cities and towns. Now stumbling toward bankruptcy, the Commonwealth is threatening to cut off "local aid," and the voice of outrage is heard. "That is our money," the gulls shriek.

Well now, let's think. Taxes pay for services, so if we don't pay taxes, we can't have services. We are, in a very real sense, a commonwealth, a band of brothers and sisters and mothers and fathers and daughters and sons, and we are, for better or for worse, in this thing together, living for the common wealth, the general health.

If feels terrible to witness this new cutting, past the bone, now to the marrow. Whether money is the root of all evil, the withholding of money which injures our fellow citizens is certainly selfish and mean-spirited. "Who steals my purse steals trash," observed Shakespeare, "but he that filches from me my good name...makes me poor indeed." It is time to check out our hearts, which are not mere cash registers, to dig deeper, to give more for more. Nothing is free, certainly not education, alas, even freedom, they say, has a price.

Dr. William Keough

FEATURES

Casey observes 23 years of change

by Christine Leccese
Strobe staff

Many people at Fitchburg State College can hardly fathom being here for even four years. How would one react to the fact that one individual has been here for 23 years? This person, however, is not a student. He is Senior Librarian William Casey, an FSC veteran who arrived on campus in 1967.

Among other things, Casey has seen many significant physical changes on campus. When he began his long endeavor here, the Hammond Building did not exist. At that time, the library occupied two floors of the Sanders Administration Building. In 1975, however, because of special State College library funding, the Hammond Building was erected. Percival Hall was a junior high school, used by the Education students for practicum. Dillon School, located on Day Street was used for the same thing.

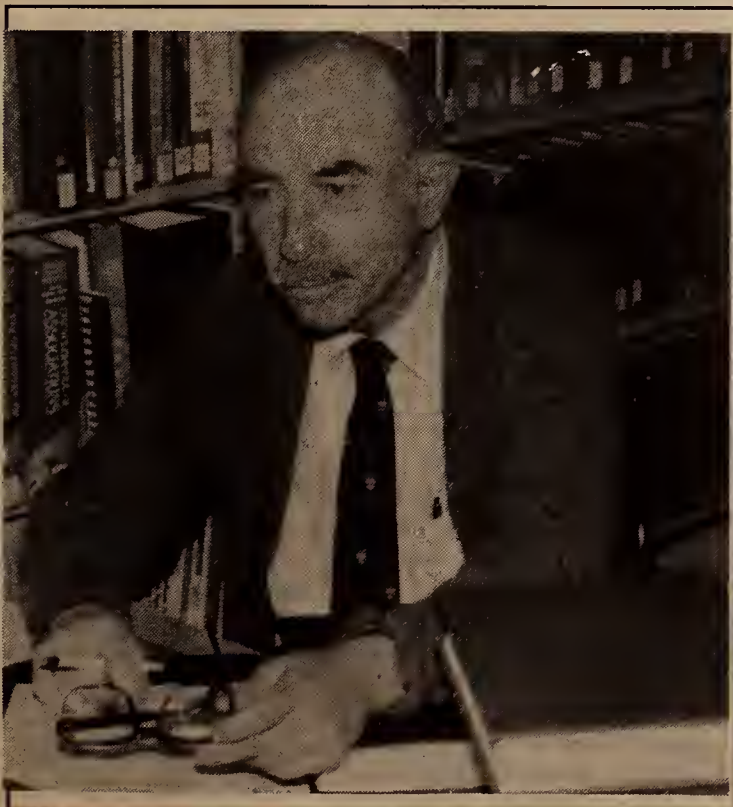
Casey also saw the rapid proliferation of computers on campus. He remembers when the school had one central computer that was used for everything. Today, there are computers in almost every building. Casey has also been here to observe the in-

roduction of new majors including Computer Science, Business, and Communications.

As far as his job as senior librarian, his least favorite aspects of the job are reports and paperwork. "The best part of the job," states Casey "is being able to work with the students and faculty." He feels that many students do not use the library's resources to their full potential. "Many people do not use the reference section well enough until it is too late to help their undergraduate career," Casey said.

While college students in any era show similar characteristics, times certainly have changed. During the 1960's there was nationwide political activity on college campuses, and FSC was no different. "I don't see much of that today," said Casey. He also remembers one English teacher who actually had a dress policy. This teacher felt that if the students were academically preparing for the working world, they should prepare their dress style as well. This policy today would be not only disregarded by students, but looked at as absurd.

Casey has lived on Pearl Street during his career at FSC. Currently, his retirement plans consist of "generally, just enjoying my days off."



FSC's long time librarian, William Casey
Strobe file photo

Velasco discusses her new book

by Dena Francavilla
Strobe staff

Professor Maria Mercedes de Velasco is more than a Spanish teacher, she is an accomplished writer. Hidden in one corner of McKay School, is the office in which she works.

Velasco has just finished a book entitled "El Teatro Colombiano: Actividad Artística y Política Cultural" (The Colombian Theater: Artistic Activities and Cultural Policies) which discusses women's theater and the problems women face in South and Central America each day.

"El Teatro Colombiano" concentrates on "La Mascara," a group of actresses who travel through small towns in South and Central America. The group is dependent upon government financial support and other donations, therefore, they rely on their own careers of teachers and doctors to get by.

In the book, Velasco tells about the group of avid actresses. You can watch their performances in the midst of busy "plazas." Because of the noise, the group uses little music and speech, and they

emphasize the use of masks, flags, fire, and water, to get their messages across.

"This is the only contact the poor people have with art and these ideas," said Velasco. "The women perform for other women, so that they will know there are women suffering from the same problems as themselves."

After the performance, they hold a forum where the audience is encouraged to discuss abortion, drugs, women's rights, and other controversial issues.

"They like to hear the audience's reactions to the act and usually change the performance according to what they hear," continued Velasco.

In a later chapter in the book, she discusses the works and theories of Enrique Buena Ventura, her past professor at the University of Cali. The talented man referred to as "The Father of Latin American Theater," encouraged his students to start "La Mascara." "Ironically he is more well known in the United States than in his own country," Maria Velasco respects this man and takes the idea that he "wants to help the population" to heart.

Maria Velasco came to the United States in 1982, where she earned her master's and a Ph.D. in Literature at Syracuse University. She returned to Colombia only to find it extremely difficult to find a job with her background. In regard to the frustration she found, she added, "The government spends money in technology rather in the theater. Little by little the situation is changing."

There used to be no interest in publishing material that discussed the cultural and social issues of her country. Now, Colombia publishes more books than Argentina and Mexico, possibly due to the cocaine money in that country.

Maria Velasco noticed that more people needed to hear about the events in Colombia and decided to help make a change. In the corner of her small office hangs a picture of a rose with the words "Vive Colombia!" written above. She believes that something should be done to end the tragic events in her home country and hopes that the elections for president in April will make a change. "Remember it is better to help than do nothing."

Mass drivers earn their reputation

by Bryan Halley
Contributing writer

Strap on your helmet, and harness yourself in. You are about to drive in the Massachusetts version of the Indy 500.

Massachusetts's commuters are notorious for displaying aggressive driving tactics. For an outsider (someone who learned to drive elsewhere), every venture on the road can be filled with constant fear.

I speak with the voice of experience. Being an out of state motorist, from new Hampshire, I particularly notice the differences in driving techniques.

Take the often "non-observed" red light. How many times have you seen a car illegally drive through a red light? Perhaps they should just replace them with yield signs and save everyone the hassle of noticing the light's color.

Yellow, in Massachusetts, seems to deliver another message: the infamous "punch it," before it turns red, not that the red necessarily stops them either.

Stop signs are worse. At times, one might be glad if drivers just ran them consistently. Instead, they frequently play a game you might know called "how close can the incoming car get to me before

I pull out in front of it?" To the unsuspecting soul, this can be extremely aggravating. An unwary driver, not from Massachusetts, may be traveling at a leisurely 50 m.p.h. approaching a car stopped at a stop sign. Its driver appears to watch as the car heads toward him. He pauses a little longer, then as the car is about 50 feet away, he snaps out of his stare and pulls out. Now it's quick-brake time, folks. One is left to apply his brakes through the floor, with a few choice words about the person who created this situation. In retaliation, one might sometimes find themselves driving on his bumper, seeking the next opportunity to pass him.

We've all been there before, on both ends. Driving in Massachusetts on a regular basis, moreover, injects these bold mannerisms into one's driving.

I have another beef: the use of directionals, or lack of. I feel as if I'm a goody-goody if I use mine, that I'll stick out like rain in the desert. I even find myself moving toward my indicator, then suddenly stopping because I know I don't have to. All one really needs is to be prepared to stop quickly. Even when signals are used, they either flash when the car is in mid-turn, or the driver is using the wrong one.

How about those "passing" zones? You know, where the double yellow stripes divide the middle? The breakdown lane? That's in addition to the dotted line. I guess they just like to use the whole road.

Still another problem with their passing tactics, is their disregard for the number of cars they pass, or for how close oncoming cars are. Frequently, Massachusetts drivers attempt the four-car pass. Usually, one finds a beat up Chevette attempting this pass. Once all four cylinders kick in, they are scorching, doing about 52 miles an hour. It's an unnerving sight.

Of course, every state can not boast perfect drivers. However, Massachusetts drivers, on first-hand observance, deserve the reputation they have. I'm also not saying that new Hampshire drivers are always courteous, or for that matter that even I am. My latest excuse is, "I drive in Massachusetts more often than in my native state, hence bad habits have rubbed off on me."

There's nothing wrong with being aggressive. No one enjoys following the passive driver. But the Indy 500 should be watched on television once a year, not lived everyday.

FEATURES

Dith Pran finds new friend at FSC

by Maria Mewing
Strobe staff

There is a saying which is often repeated to those of us struggling with various questions in life, that "we do not always know where our friends will come from." When or if you're involved in a particularly hard spot, be it questioning life's meaning, or trying to work out a tough situation, this statement often times proves itself to be very true. For student Andrea Wallace, this phrase is exemplified by the relationship which has developed between herself and Cambodian holocaust survivor/lecturer, Dith Pran.

Wallace, a junior in Communications/Media, saw the movie, "The Killing Fields," the story of Pran's involvement with New York Times journalist, Sydney Schanberg, when it came out a few years back. After viewing the movie, she couldn't shake her awe and curiosity for its central character. "I thought, I have to 'connect' with this guy somehow, find out more about him, because I had felt so strongly about what I had seen," commented Wallace. She decided to write him a letter at the New York Times, where the movie credits list him as a photo-journalist. At the time she was a freshman at FSC, and trying to

sort out recent changes in her life.

Most people, when they heard of her intentions, scoffed at her, telling her he wouldn't write back. "I didn't really expect a response, maybe a form letter, but that was it. I really only wrote because I needed to articulate my thoughts and feelings on what I saw happen to him and the Cambodian people in the movie," Wallace said. "I was blown away by the movie, and really intrigued by Pran's will to survive in the world he was in. It seems that most people, after going through what he did at the hands of the the Khmer Rouge, would have given up," continued Wallace. "He wanted to live so badly, he hung on to every day."

"I looked around at people in the U.S., and knew that their lives and mine, aren't half as bad. I wondered what made him hang on," said Wallace. "Seeing this movie was a real turning point in my life," she added, "It made me realize my priorities and perspectives."

Dith, (surnames come first in Asian syntax), wrote back with a form letter in three weeks, asking for her telephone number. Three weeks after that, he called. "He asked me about my life. He understood my questions, and thought that I seemed very curious about the Cambodian people as well," Wallace said, "and I am." Ever

since then, they have been communicating regularly. "Everytime we talk on the phone, he asks me about my life, guys, school. He always stresses 'Education first,' he's like a father at times," Wallace says. On Pran's side of the fence, he finds his friend to be someone he can identify with.

"After what I went through in Cambodia, I can appreciate Andrea's questions," Pran said. "She was so curious about the killing fields and Cambodia. She's brave and smart to want to know, I think."

Wallace has tried to use her new found knowledge to help others become more aware. "I wanted to help Pran share his message once I understood. 'What comes around, goes around,' or as Pran would say, 'We are all human beings, and they are your sisters, brothers, everyone.' We are all related," Wallace said. "I feel everyone should hear what suffering went on under the non-reformist Khmer Rouge so they can understand. Our government has had a hand in this suffering, and I think that's also important for everybody to learn, so that they can become more aware and educated about our world. That's why I tried so hard to get him to speak on campus, I want other people to understand as well," she added.



Dith Pran with FSC student Andrea Wallace.

Strobe file photo

Looking for a fraternity, sorority or student organization that would like to make \$500-\$1000 for a one week on-campus marketing project. Must be organized and hardworking.

Call Bode or Elizabeth U. at (800)592-2121

A chunk out of the Big Apple

by Stephen Gomes
Contributing Writer

New York, in my eyes, is God's gift to the liberals. Whatever your mind can conceive, has been done to the excess in New York City.

The culture shock was fascinating. Ten million hearts may beat in New York City, but each one wants nothing to do with the other. The boundaries were set when I squeezed between several million bodies onto the subway system and proceeded to memorize every piece of advertising I could set my eyes on.

If there is money to be made, New York is the place. If there is money to be spent, New York is also the place. I spent money because it was impossible not to. This city does not allow you to breathe without making you pay for the oxygen. But that is not why I came here. My number one priority is Rolling Stone magazine. Whether it be research, filing, dealing with the media, the readers, or simply writing letters, the experience I gain is absolutely priceless. I have to admit, having good disciplinary skills in college makes it easier to adjust from a classroom environment to an office environment. The work becomes less complicating, and the adaptation period is halved.

Having an internship at a major magazine gives your ego a boost, because your responsibilities has been lifted as well. I generally fax information all over the United States, and I also telephone record labels in England. I assemble general informational folders for some of the writers, and as a result, have entertained a common rapport between them.

I've spoken quite frequently with Peter Travers (films), David Wild (Music), James Henke (Managing editor) and Robert Wallace (executive editor). They've given me some valuable advice, as well as coached on the minor technicalities the field requires. On occasion, I've spoken with the editor-in-chief, Jann Wenner. Having started the magazine at 21, there is much to learn from whatever leaves his lips.

Then, of course, there's the superstar element. Despite the notoriety of the magazine, it is a rare occasion indeed, when we are graced with the presence of a subject from our magazine. Nevertheless, sporadic arrivals do occur, such as when Sting recently

arrived for a brief visit. That's something you never get used to.

I originally turned down this internship as a result of the cost of living in New York. The housing problem was solved by two people. Back in April, my brother-in-law, Timothy Hogan and I drove down to New York on a day trip to find a place to stay. However, the studio apartments were too expensive, and the ads open for roommates were already closed. As a last resort, we tried the Young Mens & Womens Hebrew Association (YMHA).

Dr. Irene Harris, the chairperson of the English department had first suggested this to me, but I thought, "The Y? No way. Disgusting!" I envisioned the Y as some rat-infested brick shack which houses criminals and diseases before citizens and people. It wasn't like that at all.

In essence, the YMHA is a lot like Russell Towers. That is, except for the fact that it costs twice as much as Russell. My floor is composed of between 25 and 30 Russian refugees who have not been graced with the gift of cleanliness. For the first two weeks I spent in New York, I was literally alone. Fortunately, as time has passed I have acquired a roommate, a fellow intern from upstate New York. This, along with the fact that my parents have generously offered to help pay for my rent, has made my living a lot easier. What has also helped, is the rapport I have been able to keep with my internship advisor, Dr. Marilyn McCaffrey. If not for her help, as well as that of the entire English department, I might never have had the opportunity to intern in New York, one of my many childhood dreams. Dr. McCaffrey, especially, has given me sound advice on handling certain situations that occur in the office, in the city, or in the Y. If not for her, things would have been much different.

I have no regrets about this internship at all. Whether the experience be positive or negative, the knowledge I have gained on the social and educational levels has been quite inspiring. Also, the responsibilities Rolling Stone has given me, has helped me to adapt from the "I can't wait" attitude I had in college to the "so this is it" attitude I have now. The change, although rather abrupt, established the gap set between immaturity and maturity. I think.

PERSONALS

Hey Dave,
Want half of a piece of gum?

Bella,
We could deal with WC tickets,
the hotel bill, the drinks, food,
shoes, and belt....But please start
paying your own phone bill.

Bella,
If this goes much further, she will
have to take out a personal loan.

Bella,
Question: Were you wearing the
shoes and belt when you made the
phone call?

Bella,
Last stop of your free ride is New
England Telephone....please get
off.
The girls of FSC

Steiner, Head, and Al,
I'll miss you all. It's been a great
year!

My wonderful staff,
Although you've gotten me angry
plenty of times, I'll still miss you
all very much. Thanks for every-
thing, and good luck next semes-
ter.

Love, Ling Ling

Fluffy,
O' Dronke man; disfigured is thy
face, sour is thy breathe...

Wallace,
I think I'll miss you most of all
Scarecrow.

Scary Mary,
Is she still getting it? I'm dis-
gusted!

Alysia,
Living with you has been hell! I
just can't imagine not having you
(and Bob) as roommates. We'll
hit the clubs this summer.
Your loving roommate, Lia (JB)

Dan,
You're a sophomore? You'll defi-
nitely scoop now!

Dr. Bob,
I miss you too, honey. When are
you coming up to visit me? Don't
worry, Lia won't mind.
Alysia

Kathy,
Congratulations graduate!! You
deserve only the best!! Good luck
and hope to see you soon.
From America's Most Wanted

Christine,
What nationality are you? You
must be Italian, Greek,....

Karin H.,
Is your name red? Do you dye
your hair? Why do they call you
red?

Big Bad Mama of Myrtle Ave.,
wait 'till those sons of bee's get a
load of you.

A.B. accomodates more than the
Holiday Inn.

Sue Baka,
Encore ! Encore! You were won-
derful in the Easter play.

Marc and Cliff,
How do you get to Keene State?
Take three lefts.

Ann,
Take it easy in the fourth floor
bathroom. We only get \$6.00 an
hour.
Thank You , The custodians

Judy,
Next time wait until my wife is out
of the room.
Love Mr. Onion Cheese

The sound of crackling knuckles,
the putter of a blue Datsun in the
middle of Connecticut and the faint
odor of garlic in the air.

Marc and Dave,
Turn down the guitar.
Love ,Russell Towers

Where were we ? Oh yeah it was
Kelly, Kate , Maureen and myself
and we were listening to a "Mix-
ture of Different Albums."...

*This is the last
issue of **The
Strobe** for the
spring semester.
Look for the
next issue in
September.
Have a great
summer!*

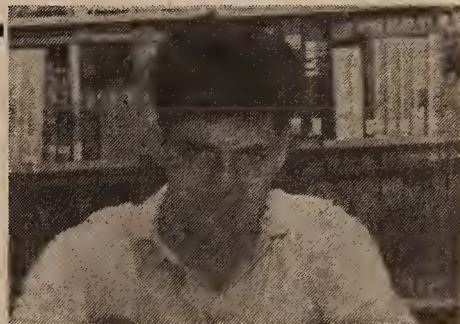
? Question of the week ?

What will you miss most about FSC over the summer?

Strobe photos by Matt Datillo



Free pool in the game room.-Kevin
Robertson



Free pocket billiards and ping-
pong.-Mike Foley



My friends and 80 cent coffee.-
Lynn Fluett



Friends and keg parties.-Pete
Zompa

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

FSC Concert and Jazz Ensemble entertain audience

By Tim Kane
Strobe staff

On April 11, 1990, Weston Auditorium was not only filled with people, but also with the colorful sounds of the Fitchburg State College Band and Jazz Ensemble. This being their last concert of the semester, was held to honor local volunteers. The 54 member Concert Band composed of FSC students, alumni and local musicians performed eight compositions of various styles including a military suite, and a more traditional chart called "Chorale and Alleluia."

Performing first was the 19 member Jazz Ensemble which pumped out noted songs including "All about the Blues," a swing

style blues composition, to a more standard Jazz chart, "Two Timin'," composed by the infamous Lennie Niehaus. The audience seemed to enjoy the performance by both groups, almost as much as the enthusiastic musicians themselves. The average age of the crowd was fifty to sixty scattered with a few younger faces. Talking with Dr. Patterson after the Concert gave an understanding of how difficult it is to unite all the different sections of the Band and Jazz Ensemble together.

"The Band and Jazz Band only rehearse once a week for just a few hours. With the level of music we chose to perform this semester, I think our musicians played to their highest potential." Patterson

went on to say that, "Maintaining a professional sound in this relaxed setting is difficult, but the spirit in which the FSC's Band and Jazz Ensemble revolves around shines through." This spirit Dr. Patterson discussed was also evident in the audience's gleaming faces and their stomping feet.

FSC Band and Jazz Band are constantly in need of new musicians for the Concert Band, and the Jazz Ensemble. If you are a musician, and would like to play in either of these groups, contact Dr. Patterson at the beginning of the Fall Semester. There are no auditions, and there are openings for all instruments. Hats off to Dr. Patterson, and his two group's successful year of music.

WXPL: the wrap up

by Dan McDermott
Strobe staff

As we close in on the end of another semester at Fitchburg State, WXPL prepares for another year of broadcasting. The management of the station has already begun to prepare a training program for the freshmen arriving in September. Also, WXPL hopes to broadcast throughout the summer, continuing their plan to bring new music to the Fitchburg community.

FSC's only college radio station can reflect on the past year with pride. New members poured in last September, and aided the station in making a success of the

Stepping Stones conference held in January. Now, on top of the excellence of the past year's broadcasting, WXPL reaches its audience in stereo, for the first time since becoming an FM broadcast in the fall of 1985.

While WXPL looks to their future with anticipation, there are some who will not be with them. WXPL would like to extend a fond farewell and heartfelt thanks to Craig Albano, who is resigning from his position of station manager at WXPL. Albano was respected by all members of the station, and his presence will be missed.

Also leaving their broadcasting abode is Captain Ken Spauld-

ing, who taught them the magic of professional radio. Spaulding is moving on to a potential career in broadcasting, and they wish him all the luck he needs.

WXPL would also like to thank Maria Mewing, who put hard work and long hours into producing the XPLosion program guide.

Also, a fond farewell to program director John Hunt, who leaves soon for Germany.

Finally, congratulations to Tom Benham, the new station manager of WXPL. They hope Benham will lead them to a bright future as a voice of the FSC campus. To all the students leaving WXPL this semester, good luck.

Poetry review

by Kelly Buckowski
Strobe staff

Not Waving But Drowning

Nobody heard him, the dead man,
But still he lay moaning:
I was much further out than you thought
And not waving but drowning.

Poor chap, he always loved larking
And now he's dead
It must have been too cold for him
His heart gave way,
They said.

Oh no no no it was too cold
always
(Still the dead one lay moaning)
I was much too far out all my life
And not waving but drowning.

The poem "Not Waving But Drowning" by Stevie Smith, not only has its literal meaning but an underlying one. By carefully look-

ing at the word choices and their context in the poem, it becomes easier to understand. In a sense, these words give ideas to the reader that may not have been thought of when just reading it from literal context. In addition, it is narrated by two speakers, one who is just telling us what happens in the story, and the other one, the so-called dead man, who answers back to the first speaker. The tone of this poem seems to be sympathetic towards the man.

This poem has many effective phrases that give it its underlying meaning. The use of two speakers gives it the form of something like an anecdote. This is useful in this poem, because it allows one to see two sides of the poem. Without the use of both speakers, it would be easier to take the "dead man's" point of view, because the whole story behind the poem would not be there. Lastly, I feel that the tone adds to the poem, because it allows one to step into the shoes of

SPORTS UPDATE

FSC's Hajjar named MASCAC player of the week

by Dave Marsh
Sports Information Director

Fitchburg State's Doug Hajjar was named Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC) baseball player of the week for the week ending April 16.

The North Andover native was scorching at the plate hitting .668 (11 for 16) for the week. Hajjar

collected 10 RBI and scored four runs in the Falcons' six games. He also set a school record by hitting safely in eight consecutive at bats over a three game stretch. For the season, the sophomore has raised his average to an amazing .500 (17 for 34).

Despite his efforts, the Falcons have struggled as a team, having won just 3 of 13 contests. In the MASCAC, FSC is currently 2-6.

Bruins and Celtics weekly

by Dave Walsh
Strobe staff

Bruins

The elimination of the pesky Hartford Whalers propelled the Bruins into the next round of the Stanley Cup playoffs against their arch-rivals, the Montreal Canadiens. The return of Ray Bourque from his hip injury, played more of an emotional factor for the team in game 7. The true hero of the series was goalie Andy Moog, whose 18 save performance in the first period alone of game 7 was a boost to the team.

If the Bruins can stay healthy, they should have no trouble with the Canadiens.

Celtics

Amidst all the excitement about the Bruins, the Celtics have quietly entered the spotlight. They are 2 games behind Philadelphia with two to play, and will probably play the New York Knicks in the first round of the playoffs. They need a healthy Bird, Parish, and McHale to have any kind of success in the playoffs.

The Celtics should make the playoffs interesting for all local basketball fans.

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ARMY NURSE CORPS. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

Tardanico mourned

From page 1

ing with technology in every sense, even though we don't think of it in that way," Tardanico said.

Tardanico was very conscious of women in technology. He took these women aside, was very supportive of them and was interested in what they thought of the program. The origin of this kindness could be due to the fact that he had four daughters of his own. Janet Campion, a senior Industrial Science/Graphic Arts major said, "he was always there for you. He was the person who got me into the major."

Dr. Luther Tabor, an architect and teacher at FSC had many fond memories to share about Tardanico. "He hired me from a community college in Vermont, and was very supportive," said Tabor. He continued to say, "we shared many common interests as I am an architect, and he was a builder." Tabor described Tardanico as being, "a very warm person who had an unbounding energy for change, which he thrived on. Three days before his death, he was working on a proposal to teach a class in Worcester, via satellite." He compared Tardanico's mind to the workings of a cement mixer, as it was always in motion.

The two enjoyed clashing the ideas commonly discussed between builders and architects. Tabor defined Tardanico as a man who was "easy to disagree with." He also was a man who took personal interest in all the faculty members in the Industrial Science department. "He was interested in you as an individual, and also took an interest in your family. The department was also like a family in itself."

Tardanico taught an entire generation of woodworkers across New England, and the students of FSC have especially pleasant memories of him. David Rancatore, senior Industrial Technology major, said of Tardanico, "he was always there for the students. He was ready to make an appointment whenever you needed to talk. He was also always easy to find."

Tabor continued to describe Tardanico as "a man with fine old woodworking skills." He had a great passion for antique tools and especially loved the tools on display in the Industrial Arts building.

F.I.T.A., A.B.C., and Epsilon are organizing a fund to plant a tree in his honor on May 2. Donations can be given to the Epsilon office located in room 233 of the Industrial Science Building.

Dith Pran

From page 1

the country and its people were changed forever.

Working as a guide and interpreter for the New York Times correspondent Sydney Schanberg, Pran was present in Phnom Pehn when the Khmer Rouge took over. In the days that followed, Schanberg and other western journalists were allowed to leave Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge, however, demanded that all Cambodians be turned over to them. Consequently, Pran was forced to remain behind. He spent the next two years of his life in a labor camp, where he endured beatings, torture and starvation.

Not long after the Khmer Rouge took over the capital, they began a mass evacuation of the country's cities and towns. "The people were herded like animals into the streets and marched to labor camps. The Khmer Rouge showed no mercy. Hospitals were evacuated as well. The elderly and the sick were forced to journey to the camps. Some walked with intravenous bottles still attached to them," stated Pran. This was just the beginning however. Life in the camps was brutal. Everyone was forced to work. Children, who should have been in school or at play, labored along side their parents in the rice fields.

According to Pran, the people existed on starvation diets. "We ate what many people would term 'ugly food.' When you're faced with survival, you learn to eat

anything including insects, lizards, and rodents. We often watched the birds to see what they ate. If it was safe for them to eat, we knew it was safe for us as well."

Survival also depended on fooling the regime into believing that you are not intelligent. Khmer Rouge feared educated people, because with education comes the threat of resistance. "I survived because I lied. I told them I was a taxi driver," Pran told the audience.

Due to their fear of resistance, the Khmer Rouge believed they had to wipe out all memories of life prior to Khmer Rouge control. "They told us to forget memories of the past. It was now year one. Nothing existed before now," Pran stated. The regime feared resistance from educated people the most. "In order to survive, you had to play dumb. You had to fool the party into thinking you were not intelligent or educated," he added.

In addition to education, the Khmer Rouge feared other systems as well. Western medicine was abolished. Herbal remedies were used. As a result, thousands died due to a lack of medical attention.

Pran feels that the film "The Killing Fields" is a fairly accurate depiction of what he and countless numbers of his countrymen endured under Khmer Rouge control. He does stress however, that there are many things the film doesn't show. "If the movie were

to show the atrocities and brutality of the regime with complete accuracy, the audience would have been lost. The movie exposes the audience to a small amount of the atrocities that were happening at that time, but it is still not complete reality. It shows you enough to give you a sense of the regime and the suffering of the Cambodians."

When asked why he believes he survived when millions of others died, Pran responded, "I believe I survived to be a messenger for the Cambodian people. I have a story to tell. The world needs to become aware of Cambodia and the holocaust. Holocausts have happened throughout history. They will continue to happen in the future if people remain silent."

"I want peace in my country. That is the top priority. Then I would like to see the leaders of the Khmer Rouge regime brought to the world court," he continued. "People must stop recognizing the Khmer Rouge as part of the Cambodian government. The regime is a brutal monster and needs to be brought to justice," he added. Pran made a plea to the audience to write to their congressmen, and encourage them to work towards stopping all American support, direct or indirect, to the Khmer Rouge. "With your help and support, peace in Cambodia can become a reality, and the people of Cambodia can start to rebuild."

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All College Development Day

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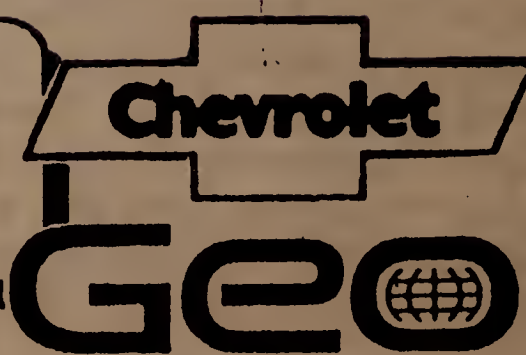
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